

art/tapes/22

s.p.a.

AND
6.30

VIDEO TAPE PRODUCTION

22 via ricasoli firenze 50129 telefono 283643

DEAR RALPH / AND WALTER!

HELLO TO EVERYONE. I'VE BEEN INTENDING TO WRITE TO FIND OUT HOW THINGS ARE GOING THERE, BUT HAVEN'T GOTTEN IT TOGETHER TILL NOW WHEN THERE IS A MATTER OF IMMEDIATE IMPORTANCE (ACQUAS SEEMS TO GO THIS WAY.) ANYWAY, THE THING IS THIS: IN JULY, FROM THE 14TH - 19TH I WILL BE IN ROCHESTER AT VISUAL STUDIES DOING A WORKSHOP. I SPOKE WITH LADDY KITE THERE ABOUT POSSIBLE MATERIALS I MIGHT NEED AND THE ONLY THING HE DOESN'T HAVE WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT IN MY WORK IS A VIDEO PROJECTOR. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO BORROW THE PROJECTOR FROM THE EXP. CENTER FOR THIS WORKSHOP. IF POSSIBLE I WOULD LIKE TO USE IT FOR 2 WEEKS AT THAT TIME, AS I HAVE A SERIES OF IDEAS I WANT TO WORK OUT WITH VIDEO PROJECTION. I REMEMBER THAT FOR MY SHOW AT THE KITCHEN LAST YEAR YOU GENEROUSLY LET ME USE THE PROJECTOR FOR THAT WEEK, ARE THINGS STILL ~~THE SAME~~ WORKING THE SAME IN TERMS OF BORROWING EQUIPMENT? IT WOULD REALLY BE NICE IF WE COULD WORK WITH PROJECTION AT THE THING IN ROCHESTER. DURING THIS TRIP TO THE STATES I HOPE, ON MY WAY TO ROCHESTER, TO BE ABLE TO STOP IN AT BINGHAMTON IN ANY CASE. I HAVE SOME TAPE WORK I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU AND ALSO GET SOME INFORMATION AND STUFF ABOUT YOUR WORK THERE TO BRING BACK HERE. AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, I'VE BEEN HERE AT ART/TAPES SINCE SEPT. AND WILL BE STAYING ON AT LEAST THROUGH APRIL 1976. WE'VE GOT A SMALL STUDIO WITH MINIMUM EQUIPMENT (HAVE TO BE EXPANDING TO SOME OUR STUFF BY THE FALL.) ~~WE~~ WE HAVE A VISITING ARTISTS PROGRAM, SIMILAR TO YOURS I GUESS WHERE PEOPLE CAN COME (BY INVITATION) AND HAVE FULL USE OF THE STUDIO TO DO TAPES. WE ALSO RUN A VIDEO CASSETTE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, PRIMARILY FOR EUROPE BUT ~~AND~~ WE'VE ALSO DONE STUFF IN THE STATES. BESIDES THE WORK DONE HERE AT OUR STUDIO, WE ARE ALSO ACCEPTING WORK DONE ELSEWHERE FOR DISTRIBUTION. (WE'VE GOT THE SONY DUAL STANDARD CASSETTES AND CAN PLAYBACK AND MAKE COPIES OF NTSC COLOR MATERIAL.) I WOULD BE INTERESTED TO SEE IF WE COULD GET SOME OF THE WORK YOU'VE DONE THERE ~~OR~~ SEEN HERE IN EUROPE.

WHEN I COME TO THE STATES I'LL GIVE YOU MORE INFO ON THIS, BUT BASICALLY WE WOULD NEED THE MATERIAL ON CASSETTE, GOOD ENOUGH COPY THAT WE COULD MAKE COPIES FROM IT. THE COST FOR THIS CASSETTE YOU GET BACK ~~NEED THE~~ FROM THE FIRST SALE/RENTAL. THE REST OF THE ~~STUFF~~ SALES/RENTALS ARE SPLIT 60% FOR YOU, 40% ART/TAPES. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS INTERESTS YOU IN RELATION TO THE WORK YOU'RE DOING.

ANYWAY I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE SOME PRINT INFORMATION ON THE CENTER, AS WE ARE MAINTAINING A LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTER HERE. I DON'T KNOW HOW LIMITED MY TIME WILL BE IN JULY, BUT I HOPE WE CAN ~~IF YOU~~ GET TOGETHER THEN.

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IF YOU CAN PLEASE LET ME KNOW THE STATUS OF THE VIDEO PROJECTOR SINCE I

AM PLANNING OUT THE WORKSHOP THIS MONTH.

HOPE ALL'S WELL IN SUNNY DOWNTOWN BINGHAMTON —

AND I HOPE THIS LETTER MAKES IT THROUGH THE ITALIAN MAIL SYSTEM WITHOUT GETTING "KEYED OUT" OF EXISTANCE.

See Ya Soon —

Bill Viola

P.S. ENCLOSED FIND A PHOTO DOCUMENTATION OF A VIDEO PROJECTION PIECE I DID LAST SUMMER IN SYRACUSE. IT WAS REALLY OUTRAGEOUS. ~~IT WAS~~ THAT'S MY FACE IN THE UPPER WINDOWS. I DON'T KNOW HOW THE LIGHT IS BUT MAYBE WE CAN DO THAT OUT YOUR WINDOWS ONTO MAIN ST. SOME NIGHT!

~~IT WAS~~ (I DIDN'T HAVE ANYMORE PRINTS LEFT SO I HAD TO XEROX ONE.) HOPE IT'S DISCERNABLE